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Commission for Social Development

Report on the forty-sixth session (16 February 2007 and 6-15 and 22 February 2008)

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6-15 and 22 February 2008)**

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Note

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures.

Summary

At its forty-sixth session, held on 16 February 2007 and from 6 to 15 February and on 22 February 2008, the Commission for Social Development considered the priority theme "Promoting full employment and decent work for all", and the review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups during the policy year of its biennial cycle.

On the priority theme, the Commission heard a keynote address by Carlos Tomada, Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Protection of Argentina, and held a panel discussion. The Commission adopted a policy-oriented resolution on the priority theme, which was recommended to the Economic and Social Council for adoption. The Council would decide to keep full and productive employment and decent work for all under review and would request the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the resolution to the Commission at its forty-seventh session and to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, as part of the report on the outcome of the implementation of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the Assembly.

The Commission also adopted a resolution entitled "Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development", in which the Council would recommend that the Commission continue to give prominence to and raise awareness of the social dimensions of the New Partnership and would request the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Office of the Special Adviser for Africa, to submit a report on the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development to the Commission at its forty-seventh session.

In connection with its review of plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups, the Commission held a panel discussion, with the participation of the executive secretaries of the regional commissions, on the regional review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002. The Commission adopted a resolution on the first review and appraisal of the Plan of Action.

The Commission heard the statement of the Special Rapporteur on Disability of the Commission for Social Development and adopted a resolution, in which the Economic and Social Council would renew the mandate of the Special Rapporteur through 31 December 2011.

The Commission held a panel discussion on the theme "Mainstreaming disability in the development agenda" as an emerging issue. It adopted a resolution in which the Economic and Social Council would encourage Member States, the United Nations system and other entities of the international community to ensure that issues that affected persons with disabilities, including the perspective of persons with disabilities, were incorporated into the formulation of policies aiming at the full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in development.

The Commission held a discussion on the theme "Full employment and decent work: intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women"; the summary of the discussion was transmitted to the Secretary-General for his annual report to the General Assembly, as requested by the Assembly in its resolution 61/143.

The Commission also addressed the subject of its future organization and methods of work and recommended to the Council that "Social integration" be the priority theme for the 2009-2010 review and policy cycle, taking into account the relationship with poverty eradication and full employment and decent work for all.

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Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft resolutions for adoption by the Council

1. The Commission for Social Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995,[1] and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

Reaffirming the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 8 September 2000,[2] the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development[3] of 16 September 2002, General Assembly resolution 57/7 of 4 November 2002 on the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development,

Noting the conclusions of the African Union Extraordinary Summit on Employment and Poverty Alleviation in Africa, held in Ouagadougou on 8 and 9 September 2004,

Recognizing the commitments made in meeting the special needs of Africa at the 2005 World Summit,[4]

Remaining concerned that Africa is the only continent currently not on track to achieve any of the goals set out in the Millennium Declaration by 2015, and in this regard emphasizing that concerted efforts and continued support are required to fulfil the commitments to address the special needs of Africa,

Recognizing that capacity-building is essential for the successful implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[5] and also recognizing the need for continued support from the international community,

Bearing in mind that African countries have primary responsibility for their own economic and social development, that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized and that their development efforts

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* For the discussion, see chap. III, paras. 4-10.

[1] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8).

[2] General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[3] General Assembly resolution 57/2.

[4] See General Assembly resolution 60/1.

[5] A/57/304, annex.

need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, and in this regard recalling the support given by the International Conference on Financing for Development[6] to the New Partnership,

1. *Welcomes* the progress made by the African countries in fulfilling their commitments in the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development[5] to deepen democracy, human rights, good governance and sound economic management, and encourages African countries, with the participation of stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to intensify their efforts in this regard by developing and strengthening institutions for governance and creating an environment conducive to attracting foreign direct investment for the development of the region;

2. *Also welcomes* the good progress that has been achieved in implementing the African Peer Review Mechanism, in particular the completion of the peer review process in some countries, the progress in implementing the recommendations of those reviews in some countries and the completion of the self-assessment process, the hosting of country support missions and the launching of the national preparatory process for the peer review in others, and urges African States that have not yet done so, to join the peer review, as a matter of priority, and to strengthen the peer review process to ensure its efficient performance;

3. *Further welcomes* the efforts made by African countries and regional and subregional organizations, including the African Union, to mainstream a gender perspective and the empowerment of women in the implementation of the New Partnership;

4. *Emphasizes* that the African Union and the regional economic communities have a critical role to play in the implementation of the New Partnership, and in this regard encourages African countries, with the assistance of their development partners, to increase and coordinate effectively their support to enhance the capacities of these institutions;

5. *Also emphasizes* that progress in the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development depends also on a favourable national and international environment for Africa's growth and development, including measures to promote a policy environment conducive to private sector development and entrepreneurship;

6. *Further emphasizes* that democracy, respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society and effective participation by civil society, non-governmental organizations and the private sector are among the indispensable foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development;

7. *Emphasizes* that the rising poverty levels and social exclusion faced by most African countries require a comprehensive approach to the development and implementation of social and economic policies, inter alia, to reduce poverty, promote economic activity, growth and sustainable development, to ensure

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[6] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

employment creation and decent work for all, and to enhance social inclusion, political stability, democracy and good governance and the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, so as to achieve Africa's social and economic objectives;

8. *Recognizes* that while social development is primarily the responsibility of Governments, international cooperation and assistance are essential for the full achievement of that goal;

9. *Also recognizes* the contribution made by Member States to the implementation of the New Partnership in the context of South-South cooperation, welcomes, in that regard, the convening of the Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation on 4 and 5 November 2006 and the Africa-South America Summit, held in Abuja on 30 November and 1 December 2006, and encourages the international community, including the international financial institutions, to support the efforts of African countries, including through triangular cooperation;

10. *Welcomes* the various important initiatives of Africa's development partners in recent years, including those of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Africa Action Plan of the Group of Eight, the 2007 European Union-Africa Summit, the Africa-Asia Business Forum, the report of the Commission for Africa entitled *Our Common Interest* and the Africa Partnership Forum, as well as the forthcoming fourth Tokyo International Conference on African Development, to be held from 28 to 30 May 2008, on the theme "Towards a vibrant Africa: continent of hope and opportunity", and in this regard emphasizes the importance of coordination in such initiatives on Africa;

11. *Urges* continuous support of measures to address the challenges of poverty eradication and sustainable development in Africa, including, as appropriate, debt relief, improved market access, support for the private sector and entrepreneurship, enhanced official development assistance, increased foreign direct investment and the transfer of technology;

12. *Welcomes* the recent increase in official development assistance pledged by many of the development partners, including the commitments of the Group of Eight and the European Union, which will lead to an increase in official development assistance to Africa of 25 billion dollars per year by 2010, and encourages all development partners to ensure aid effectiveness through the implementation of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness: Ownership, Harmonization, Alignment, Results and Mutual Accountability of 2005;[7]

13. *Recognizes* the need for national Governments and the international community to make continued efforts to increase the flow of new and additional resources for financing for development from all sources, public and private, domestic and foreign, to support the development of African countries;

14. *Welcomes* the efforts by development partners to align their financial and technical support to Africa more closely with the priorities of the New Partnership, as reflected in national poverty reduction strategies or in similar strategies, and encourages development partners to increase their efforts in this regard;

[7] See http://www1.worldbank.org/harmonization/PARIS/FINALPARISDECLARATION.pdf.

15. *Acknowledges* the activities of the Bretton Woods institutions and the African Development Bank in African countries, and invites those institutions to continue their support for the implementation of the priorities and objectives of the New Partnership;

16. *Notes* the growing collaboration among the entities of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, and requests the Secretary-General to promote greater coherence in the work of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, on the basis of the agreed clusters;

17. *Requests* the United Nations system to continue to provide assistance to the African Union and the New Partnership Secretariat and to African countries in developing projects and programmes within the scope of the priorities of the New Partnership;

18. *Invites* the Secretary-General, as a follow-up to the 2005 World Summit, to urge the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to assist African countries in implementing quick-impact initiatives, based on their national development priorities and strategies, to enable them to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and in this respect, acknowledges recent commitments by some donor countries;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take measures to strengthen the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, and requests the Office to collaborate with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat and to include the social dimensions of the New Partnership in its comprehensive reports to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

20. *Requests* the Commission for Social Development to discuss in its annual programme of work, regional programmes to promote social development so as to enable all regions of the United Nations system to share experiences and best practices, with the concurrence of concerned countries;

21. *Decides* that the Commission for Social Development should continue to give prominence to and raise awareness of the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development during its forty-seventh session;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, to be tabled during the forty-seventh session of the Commission for Social Development, in collaboration with the Office of the Special Adviser for Africa, while also taking into consideration General Assembly resolution 62/179 of 19 December 2007, entitled "New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support".

Draft resolution II
Promoting full employment and decent work for all*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,

* For the discussion, see chap. III, sect. A, paras. 25-31.

Reaffirming that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action[8] and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session,[9] and a continued global dialogue on social issues, constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

Recognizing that a people-centred approach must be at the centre of economic and social development,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration[10] and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[11]

Recalling also the ministerial declaration adopted by the Economic and Social Council at the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2006,[12]

Recalling further its resolution 2007/2 of 17 July 2007 and the theme of the coordination segment of its 2007 substantive session, "The role of the United Nations system in promoting full and productive employment and decent work for all",

Recognizing that approximately 1.5 billion people, or one third of the working-age population worldwide, were either unemployed or underemployed in 2006,[13] that of this number about 200 million were unemployed, and that the remaining 1.3 billion constituted the working poor who are unable to earn enough to lift themselves and their family members out of poverty, and hence emphasizing the dual challenge of creating new productive jobs and improving the quality of existing ones,

Recognizing also that the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization is an important instrument for achieving the objective of full and productive employment and decent work for all through the promotion and realization of the fundamental principles and rights at work, creation of greater and equal opportunities for women and men to secure decent employment and income, and enhancement of the coverage and effectiveness of social protection for all and the strengthening of social dialogue,

1. *Reaffirms* the central importance of full and productive employment and decent work to poverty eradication and social integration;

2. *Also reaffirms* that the goals of full and productive employment and decent work are crucial to poverty eradication and should be made a central objective of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, as part of the efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

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[8] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[9] General Assembly resolution S-24/2, annex.

[10] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[11] See General Assembly resolution 60/1.

[12] See A/61/3 and Corr.1, chap. III, para. 50.

[13] International Labour Organization, *Key Indicators of the Labour Market (KILM)*, 5th ed. (Geneva, International Labour Office, 2007).

3. *Calls upon* Governments as a matter of priority to continue efforts towards ratifying — where Member States have not done so — and fully implementing the International Labour Organization conventions concerning respect for fundamental principles and rights at work, namely, freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to organize and bargain collectively, and the elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour, as well as the effective elimination of child labour and discrimination in respect of employment and occupation, and to consider also the ratification and full implementation of other International Labour Organization conventions concerning the employment rights of women, youth, persons with disabilities, migrants and indigenous peoples;

4. *Affirms* its strong support for fair globalization and the need to translate growth into eradication of poverty and commitment to strategies and policies that aim to promote full, freely chosen and productive employment and decent work for all and that these should constitute a fundamental component of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, and reaffirms that employment-creation and decent work should be incorporated into macroeconomic policies, taking fully into account the impact and social dimension of globalization, the benefits and costs of which are often unevenly shared and distributed;

5. *Reaffirms* that there is an urgent need to create an environment at the national and international levels that is conducive to the attainment of full and productive employment and decent work for all as a foundation for sustainable development and that an environment that supports investment, growth and entrepreneurship is essential to the creation of new job opportunities, and also reaffirms that opportunities for men and women to obtain productive work in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity are essential to ensuring the eradication of hunger and poverty, the improvement of economic and social well-being for all, the achievement of sustained economic growth and sustainable development of all nations and a fully inclusive and equitable globalization;

6. *Stresses* the importance of removing obstacles to the realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, in particular people living under colonial or other forms of alien domination or foreign occupation, which adversely affect their social and economic development, including their exclusion from labour markets;

7. *Reaffirms* that violence, in its many manifestations, including domestic violence, especially against women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities, is a growing threat to the security of individuals, families and communities everywhere; that total social breakdown is an all too real contemporary experience; that organized crime, illegal drugs, the illicit arms trade, trafficking in women and children, ethnic and religious conflict, civil war, terrorism, all forms of extremist violence, xenophobia, and politically motivated killing and even genocide present fundamental threats to societies and the global social order; and that they also present compelling and urgent reasons for action by Governments individually and, as appropriate, jointly to foster social cohesion while recognizing, protecting and valuing diversity;

8. *Also reaffirms* that each country has the primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, and underlines the importance of adopting effective measures, including new financial mechanisms, as appropriate, to

support the efforts of developing countries to achieve sustained economic growth, sustainable development, poverty eradication and the strengthening of their democratic systems;

9. *Calls upon* the international community to enhance its efforts to create an enabling environment for social development and poverty eradication through increasing market access for developing countries, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, financial aid and a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem;

10. *Welcomes* the increased resources that are becoming available as a result of the establishment of timetables by many developed countries for achieving the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries, as well as the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national product of developed countries for least developed countries, and urges those developed countries that have not yet done so to make concrete efforts in this regard in accordance with their commitments;

11. *Acknowledges* that good governance and the rule of law at the national and international levels are essential for sustained economic growth, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger;

12. *Stresses* that full and productive employment and decent work for all are key elements of sustainable development of all countries, and should therefore be a priority objective of national policies and international cooperation;

13. *Also stresses* that policies should be devised to pursue both economic efficiency and equity;

14. *Urges* Governments, with the cooperation of relevant entities, to develop systems of social protection and to extend or broaden, as appropriate, their effectiveness and coverage including for workers in the informal economy, recognizing the need for social protection systems to provide social security and support labour-market participation; invites the International Labour Organization to strengthen its social protection strategies, and policies on extending social security coverage; and also urges Governments, while taking account of national circumstances, to focus on the needs of those living in, or vulnerable to, poverty and give particular consideration to universal access to basic social security systems;

15. *Invites* the International Labour Organization to continue to assist States, as appropriate and upon request, in the strengthening of their social protection strategies and policies on extending social security coverage;

16. *Calls upon* the public sector to continue to play its important role in developing an environment that enables the effective generation of full and productive employment and decent work for all, while acknowledging its role as an employer;

17. *Calls upon* the private sector to continue its vital role in generating new investments, employment and financing for development and in advancing efforts towards full employment and decent work;

18. *Encourages* Governments to continue to pursue the creation of a conducive environment for enterprise development in both rural and urban areas, including by giving particular attention to policies that promote micro-, small and

medium-sized enterprises, cooperatives and other forms of social enterprises and the participation and entrepreneurship of women, including rural women, through, inter alia, improved administrative regimes for the registration of small businesses, access to microcredit, social security systems and information on markets and new technology, as well as improved regulations;

19. *Stresses* that policies and strategies to achieve full employment and decent work for all should include specific measures to promote gender equality and foster social integration for social groups, such as youth, persons with disabilities, and older persons, as well as migrants and indigenous peoples;

20. *Also stresses* that these policies and strategies should promote gender equality, empowerment of women and better possibilities for all to reconcile work and private and family life;

21. *Encourages* Governments, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other actors of civil society to promote and protect the rights of women workers, to take action to remove structural and legal barriers as well as stereotypic attitudes towards gender equality at work, and to initiate positive steps to promote equal pay for equal work or work of equal value;

22. *Reaffirms* that social integration policies should seek to reduce inequalities, promote access to basic social services, education for all and health care, and increase the participation and integration of social groups;

23. *Also reaffirms* the commitment to develop and implement strategies that give persons with disabilities everywhere equal opportunities to full access and productive employment and decent work on an equal basis with others and without any kind of discrimination, including by promoting a labour market and a work environment that are open, inclusive and accessible to all and by ensuring just and favourable conditions of work;

24. *Urges* the development and implementation of integrated policies and strategies that promote opportunities for youth, including those living in rural areas, to prepare for, access and retain full and productive employment and decent work, and for mainstreaming youth employment into national development strategies, as well as encourage young people's entrepreneurship, inter alia, through entrepreneurship education; at the same time, urges that Governments should promote access to work through integrated policies that enable the creation of new and quality jobs for young people and facilitate access to those jobs; and stresses the importance of the Youth Employment Network as a peer exchange mechanism at the national, regional and international levels;

25. *Stresses* the importance of creating an enabling environment for social dialogue by ensuring effective representation and participation of workers' organizations in order to contribute to the development of policies for achieving broad-based social progress, in particular for promoting full and productive employment and decent work for all;

26. *Also stresses* that non-discrimination against older persons, especially in the labour market, is crucial;

27. *Acknowledges* the important nexus between international migration and social development, and stresses the importance of effectively enforcing labour laws applicable to migrant workers and members of their families, including, inter alia,

any related to remuneration, conditions of health, safety at work and the right of freedom of association, and reaffirms that migrants, regardless of their immigration status, should be accorded the protection of all human rights;

28. *Recognizes also* the importance of the International Labour Organization Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work;

29. *Reaffirms* the critical role of both formal and non-formal education in the achievement of full employment and decent work for all, in particular basic education and training for eradicating illiteracy; and in this regard, reaffirms the need to intensify efforts to implement effectively the International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy Decade and to integrate substantially those efforts in the Education for All process and other activities of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as well as other literacy initiatives within the framework of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

30. *Also reaffirms* that priority needs to be given to providing training and skills enhancement to increase the employability of the workforce and its adaptability to changing labour markets and that comprehensive policies need to be designed to provide access to education, vocational education and technical training, capacity-building, upgrading skills and acquisition of new knowledge and lifelong learning, and to raise the quality of education with the help of the international community, as appropriate;

31. *Emphasizes* that promoting decent work aims at the overall improvement of living and working conditions for all and encourages efforts, as appropriate to the country context, to address the challenge to gradually formalizing economic activities in the informal sector and improving working conditions and achieving increased social protection coverage for all therein;

32. *Stresses* the importance of promoting corporate social responsibility and accountability, encourages responsible business practices such as those promoted by the Global Compact and invites the private sector to take into account not only the economic and financial but also the developmental, social, human rights, gender and environmental implications of its undertakings; and underlines the importance of the International Labour Organization Tripartite Declaration of Principles Concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy;

33. *Invites*, being mindful of General Assembly resolution 62/131 of 18 December 2007, the Commission for Social Development and other relevant entities of the United Nations system to continue to integrate into their work programmes and give priority attention to the Copenhagen commitments and the declaration of the Commission on the tenth anniversary of the World Summit for Social Development,[14] to continue to be actively involved in their follow-up and to monitor the achievement of those commitments and undertakings; and to emphasize in its review of the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action,[8] the increased exchange of national, regional and international experiences, the focused and interactive dialogues among experts and practitioners and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned;

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[14] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 6* (E/2005/26), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/234 of 21 July 2005.

34. *Calls for* increased national investment in and international development funding and investment flows to developing countries and countries with economies in transition that are targeted to sectors of the economy with greater potential in order to generate productive employment and decent work for all and strongly encourages multilateral and bilateral donor and inter-agency cooperation in the pursuit of these goals and full and productive employment and decent work for all, in accordance with national development strategies;

35. *Encourages* all relevant organizations of the United Nations system to collaborate in using, adapting and evaluating the application of the Toolkit for Mainstreaming Employment and Decent Work developed by the International Labour Organization and endorsed by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination;

36. *Calls on* the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to assess and adopt, as appropriate within their respective mandates, in their action plans the three-phased approach proposed by the International Labour Organization to promote the goals of full employment and decent work for all as presented in the report of the Secretary-General entitled "The role of the United Nations system in promoting full and productive employment and decent work for all";[15]

37. *Requests* the United Nations funds, programmes and agencies and invites financial institutions to support efforts to mainstream the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all in their policies, programmes and activities; and in this regard, invites stakeholders to duly take account of the International Labour Organization decent work country programmes in order to achieve a more coherent and pragmatic United Nations approach to development at the national level on a voluntary basis;

38. *Decides* to keep full and productive employment and decent work for all under review and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Commission for Social Development at its forty-seventh session and to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session as part of the report on the outcome of the implementation of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the Assembly.

Draft resolution III
Future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 2005/11 of 21 July 2005 on the future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development, in which the Council requested the Commission to review the functioning of the two-year review and policy cycle in order to ensure that that approach enhanced its effectiveness and functioning,

Further recalling its resolution 2006/18 of 26 July 2006, in which the Council noted the usefulness of identifying the themes for the 2009-2010 review and policy cycle during the forty-sixth session of the Commission,

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* For the discussion, see chap. II, paras. 4-7.

[15] E/2007/49.

Noting that the Commission discussed the priority theme of "Promoting full employment and decent work for all" at its forty-fifth and forty-sixth sessions, as the first of the core themes of the World Summit for Social Development addressed under the two-year review and policy cycle,

1. *Reaffirms* that discussing one core issue as contained in the outcome document of the World Summit for Social Development over a two-year period allows the Commission to go into greater depth by also addressing related cross-cutting issues, emerging issues and linkages with other issues relevant to the theme under discussion;

2. *Decides* that the priority theme for the 2009-2010 review and policy cycle should be "Social integration", taking into account its relationship with poverty eradication and full employment and decent work for all;

3. *Recognizes* its decision, in resolution 2006/18, in which it decided to discuss each of the core themes of the World Summit for Social Development — poverty eradication, full employment and social integration — under the two-year review and policy cycle;

4. *Notes* the usefulness of identifying the theme for the 2011-2012 review and policy cycle during the forty-eighth session of the Commission;

5. *Decides* that the Commission should maintain the two-year review and policy cycle until its fiftieth session and that it should continue to keep its methods of work under review.

Draft resolution IV
Further promotion of equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities and protection of their human rights*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 37/52 of 3 December 1982, by which the Assembly adopted the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, 48/96 of 20 December 1993, by which it adopted the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, and 61/106 of 13 December 2006, by which it adopted the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,

Recalling its resolution 2005/9 of 21 July 2005 on the further promotion of equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities and protection of the human rights of persons with disabilities as well as General Assembly resolutions 60/131 of 16 December 2005 and 62/127 and 62/170 of 18 December 2007,

Welcoming the fact that since the opening for signature of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[16] and its Optional Protocol[17] on 30 March 2007, one hundred and twenty-five States have signed and seventeen States have ratified the Convention and seventy-nine States have signed and eleven States have ratified the Optional Protocol, and looking forward to their entering into force,

* For the discussion, see chap. III, Sect. B, paras. 40-43.

[16] General Assembly resolution 61/106, annex I.

[17] Ibid., annex II.

Mindful of the need to design, adopt and implement effective strategies, policies and programmes to promote and protect the rights and well-being as well as to promote the full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in the civil, political, economic, social and cultural spheres on an equal basis with others in order to achieve a society for all,

Stressing the need to enhance complementarity and synergy in the implementation of the United Nations disability agenda through the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,

Encouraging States to continue to formulate comprehensive and coherent policies and action plans, as well as projects, that promote international cooperation and technical assistance, particularly to enhance the capacities of Government agencies and institutions, as well as civil society, including organizations of persons with disabilities, to implement programmes on disability for the equalization of opportunities for, the full enjoyment of all human rights by, and the well-being of persons with disabilities,

Noting with grave concern that persons with disabilities are subject to multiple or aggravated forms of discrimination, and recognizing the critical need to address the negative impact of poverty affecting the majority of persons with disabilities, who continue to be excluded from the benefits of development, such as education and access to gainful and productive employment and decent work as well as appropriate health care and accessible social services,

1. *Welcomes* the work of the Special Rapporteur on Disability of the Commission for Social Development, and takes note of her report;[18]

2. *Decides* to renew the mandate of the Special Rapporteur until 31 December 2011 in accordance with the provisions set down in section 4 of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities to further their promotion and monitoring, including the human rights dimensions of disability, and with the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to further:

(a) Advocate the equalization of opportunities for, the full enjoyment of all human rights by, and the well-being of persons with disabilities in all respects, in line with the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

(b) Create awareness of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, including for its wider signature and ratification by Member States;

(c) Act as a catalyst to promote international and technical cooperation on disability issues, including by identifying strategic areas for the exchange and sharing of expertise, best practices, knowledge, information and relevant technologies in order to enhance the capacity-building of Member States;

[18] E/CN.5/2007/4.

(d) Collaborate, in the fulfilment of the above tasks, with all relevant stakeholders, including organizations of persons with disabilities;

4. *Calls upon* all Governments to continue to cooperate and engage in direct dialogue with the Special Rapporteur and to provide him or her with all the relevant information needed to fulfil the mandate effectively;

5. *Calls upon* those States and regional integration organizations that have not yet signed or ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol to consider doing so as a matter of priority;

6. *Urges* Governments, the Secretary-General, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, and invites relevant human rights treaty bodies, relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, multilateral development agencies and regional commissions, in accordance with their mandates, to create greater awareness and support for the further implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and to promote the enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms as well as the equalization of opportunities and the well-being of persons with disabilities, and to improve consultation, exchange of information and coordination;

7. *Encourages* Governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to continue to contribute to the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability in order to support the activities of the Special Rapporteur as well as new and expanded initiatives to strengthen national capacities for the equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities;

8. *Expresses concern* at the insufficiency of resources for the Special Rapporteur, and recognizes the importance of providing adequate resources for the implementation of the mandate by the Special Rapporteur;

9. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit to the Commission for Social Development an annual report on his or her activities in implementing the present resolution.

Draft resolution V
Mainstreaming disability in the development agenda*

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action[19] and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session,[20] as well as a continued global dialogue on social development issues, constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

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* For the discussion, see chap. III, sect. C, paras. 52-57.

[19] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[20] General Assembly resolution S-24/2, annex.

Recalling its previous resolutions concerning persons with disabilities and the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly,

Acknowledging that the majority of the 650 million persons with disabilities in the world live in conditions of poverty, and in this regard recognizing the critical need to address the negative impact of poverty on persons with disabilities,

Also acknowledging that persons with disabilities, in particular women and children with disabilities, are subject to aggravated and multiple discrimination,

Convinced that addressing the profound social, cultural and economic disadvantage experienced by many persons with disabilities and that promoting the progressive removal of barriers to their full and effective participation in all aspects of development will further the equalization of opportunities and contribute to the realization of a "society for all" in the twenty-first century,

Welcoming the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[21] and its Optional Protocol[22] thereto on 13 December 2006 and the fact that since their opening for signature on 30 March 2007, one hundred and twenty-five States have signed and sixteen States have ratified the Convention and seventy-nine States have signed and ten States have ratified the Optional Protocol,

Recognizing the importance of the forthcoming fifth review and appraisal of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons,[23] including its updating, to be conducted by the General Assembly in 2008,

Concerned that halfway through the target date of 2015, the situation of persons with disabilities has not been adequately considered, including in the discussions and reports on the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

1. *Calls upon* those States that not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying the Convention and the Optional Protocol as a matter of priority;

2. *Expresses concern* about the persistent gap between policy and practice regarding mainstreaming the perspective of persons with disabilities, including their rights and well-being, in the work of the United Nations in realizing the Millennium Development Goals;

3. *Encourages* States, entities of the United Nations system and other members of the international community to take advantage of the range of international normative and policy instruments on disability, including the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons,[23] the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities,[24] and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[21] in guiding their efforts to ensure that the issues related to persons with disabilities, including the perspective of persons with disabilities, are incorporated into the formulation of policies, the conduct of their mandate and missions and their budget allocations, aiming at the full and effective participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities in development, both as beneficiaries and agents;

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[21] General Assembly resolution 61/106, annex I.
[22] Ibid., annex II.
[23] General Assembly resolution 37/52.
[24] General Assembly resolution 48/96, annex.

4. *Invites* States, relevant United Nations entities, including the agencies, funds and programmes, regional and international financial and development institutions, civil society and the private sector, to take into account and include mainstreaming of the issues related to persons with disabilities, including the perspective of persons with disabilities, when developing their work strategies and action plans to promote the education and training of personnel so as to foster increased sensitivity, knowledge and skills in understanding how to address issues related to persons with disabilities in their respective mandates and work;

5. *Requests* relevant United Nations entities, including the agencies, funds and programmes, as well as regional and international financial institutions, to include issues related to persons with disabilities, including the perspective of persons with disabilities, when planning country offices in accordance with their mandates;

6. *Urges* States, relevant United Nations entities, including the agencies, funds and programmes, regional and international financial and development institutions, civil society and the private sector, to give priority to the promotion of full and productive employment and decent work for persons with disabilities, as a key factor in ensuring that persons with disabilities benefit from development on an equal basis with others, and fully enjoy all human rights, including the right to work, and the opportunity to gain a living by work freely chosen or accepted, including by providing access to education and training, access to microcredit schemes and entrepreneurial opportunities, fostering a labour market and work environment that is open, inclusive and accessible to persons with disabilities, and promoting inclusive employment and human resources policies and reasonable accommodation in the workplace;

7. *Also urges* States, relevant United Nations entities, including the agencies, funds and programmes, regional and international financial and development institutions, civil society and the private sector to promote the participation of persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others in decision-making and their involvement in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of strategies, plans and programmes pertaining to them;

8. *Stresses* the need to enhance the accountability of all actors, including at the highest levels of decision-making, in the work of mainstreaming disability in the development agenda, including in the assessment of the impact of development efforts on the situation of persons with disabilities;

9. *Recognizes* the strategic importance of complementing efforts towards the mainstreaming of the issues related to persons with disabilities, including the perspective of persons with disabilities, including while considering the allocation of resources;

10. *Encourages* all States, concerned intergovernmental organizations and international organizations, civil society, in particular organizations of persons with disabilities, and the private sector, to engage in cooperative arrangements that aim at providing the necessary technical and expert assistance to enhance capacities in mainstreaming issues related to persons with disabilities, including the perspective of persons with disabilities, in development efforts, and in this regard encourages the United Nations Secretariat and other relevant bodies to find improved ways to enhance international technical cooperation;

11. *Encourages* States to mainstream disability in poverty eradication policies and strategies to ensure their accessibility, and in this regard encourages the international community to provide support and assistance;

12. *Urges* all States, international and regional organizations and civil society, in particular organizations of persons with disabilities, to ensure that international cooperation, including international development programmes, is inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

13. *Urges* States, relevant entities of the United Nations system, including the agencies, funds and programmes, and invites international and regional development organizations and financial institutions, to take concrete measures to incorporate issues related to persons with disabilities, including the perspective of persons with disabilities, and accessibility requirements into development cooperation and development finance activities;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution for submission to the Commission for Social Development at its forty-eighth session.

B. Draft decision for adoption by the Council

2. The Commission for Social Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

Report of the Commission for Social Development on its forty-sixth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-seventh session

The Economic and Social Council:

(a) Takes note of the report of the Commission for Social Development on its forty-sixth session;[25]

(b) Approves the provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-seventh session of the Commission as set out below:

Provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-seventh session of the Commission for Social Development

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

3. Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly:

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

[25] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2008, Supplement No. 6* (E/2008/26).

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the draft resolution entitled "Priority employment and decent work for all"

(a) Priority theme: social integration;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

(b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups:

(i) World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons;

(ii) World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond;

(iii) Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002;

(iv) Family issues, policies and programmes;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth

Report of the Secretary-General on the strategic implementation framework for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002

Note by the Secretary-General on the monitoring of the implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities

(c) Emerging issues.

4. Programme questions and other matters:

(a) Programme performance and implementation for the biennium 2006-2007;

(b) Proposed programme of work for the biennium 2010-2011;

(c) United Nations Research Institute for Social Development.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the draft programme of work of the Division for Social Policy and Development for the biennium 2010-2011

5. Provisional agenda for the forty-eighth session of the Commission.

6. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its forty-seventh session.

C. Resolution and decision brought to the attention of the Council

3. The following resolution and decision adopted by the Commission are brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council:

Resolution 46/1
First review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002*

The Commission for Social Development,

Recalling that the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[26] adopted by the Second World Assembly on Ageing, held in Madrid from 8 to 12 April 2002, requested the systematic review of its implementation by Member States as being essential for its success in improving the quality of life of older persons,

Recalling also that the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2003/14 of 21 July 2003, invited Governments, the United Nations system and civil society to participate in a bottom-up approach to the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action,

Bearing in mind that in its resolution 42/1 of 13 February 2004, the Commission decided to undertake a review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action every five years,

Mindful that in its resolution 44/1 of 17 February 2006, it endorsed the calendar and the global theme for the first review and appraisal of the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, "Addressing the challenges and opportunities of ageing", and decided to start the first global cycle of review and appraisal in 2007 at its forty-fifth session and to conclude it in 2008 at its forty-sixth session,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "First review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing: preliminary assessment"[27] and of the note by the Secretary-General entitled "Regional implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002",[28]

1. *Recognizes* the successful conclusion of the first review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, and its results at the international, regional and national levels;

2. *Calls upon* Governments to continue to participate effectively in the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, through, inter alia, improving data collection and sharing ideas, information and good practices;

3. *Encourages* Governments to continue their efforts to mainstream the concerns of older persons into their policy agendas, bearing in mind the crucial importance of family intergenerational interdependence, solidarity and reciprocity

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* For the discussion, see chap. III, sect. B, paras. 44-46.

[26] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8-12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[27] E/CN 5/2008/7 and Corr.1.

[28] E/CN.5/2008/2.

for social development and the realization of all human rights for older persons, and to prevent age discrimination and to provide social integration;

4. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen efforts to develop their national capacity to address the national implementation priorities identified during the review and appraisal exercise, and invites Member States that have not done so to consider a step-by-step approach to developing the capacity such as the setting of national priorities, the strengthening of institutional mechanisms, research, data collection and analysis and the training of necessary personnel in the field of ageing;

5. *Stresses* the need for additional capacity-building at the national level guided by each country's needs in order to promote and facilitate the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and in this connection encourages Governments to support the United Nations Trust Fund for Ageing to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to provide expanded assistance to countries, upon their request;

6. *Invites* Governments to conduct their policies related to ageing through inclusive consultations with relevant stakeholders and social development partners, in the interest of creating national policy ownership and consensus-building and to include older persons as participants in planning, designing, implementing and evaluating policies on ageing, poverty eradication and social protection;

7. *Invites* Governments as well as all other major national and international stakeholders to continue their cooperation with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, as the United Nations global focal point on ageing, in further implementing the Madrid Plan of Action;

8. *Acknowledges* the essential contributions of the United Nations regional commissions to the implementation, review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action, including the organization of regional review and appraisal meetings and the preparation of their outcome documents, and calls upon the Secretary-General to strengthen the work of the United Nations regional commissions, including their focal points on ageing, to enable them to continue their regional implementation activities;

9. *Encourages* the international community to enhance international cooperation to support national efforts to eradicate poverty, in keeping with internationally agreed goals, in order to achieve sustainable social and economic support for older persons, including to build capacity on ageing through stronger partnerships with civil society, such as organizations of older persons, academia, research foundations and community-based organizations, and with the private sector;

10. *Encourages* the international community and the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to support national efforts and to provide funding for research and data-collection initiatives on ageing in order to better understand the challenges and opportunities presented by population ageing and to provide policymakers with more accurate and specific information on gender and ageing, such as for policy planning, monitoring and evaluation;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider taking necessary measures to improve the institutional capacity of the United Nations system, including, inter alia, the maintenance and strengthening of focal points on ageing to enable them to fulfil their responsibilities for furthering the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action and the elaboration of the strategic implementation framework for the Plan;

12. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission for Social Development, at its forty-seventh session in 2009, a report on the analysis of the conclusions of the first review and appraisal exercise, including a strategic implementation framework based on the analysis of national activities since 2002, in order to provide the identification of policy priorities for the future and the identification of measures for international cooperation to support national implementation activities, and requests the Secretary-General to submit in the same report information on the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in preparing the strategic implementation framework for furthering the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, to consult Governments and intergovernmental organizations, including organizations of the United Nations system, taking into account the contributions of academia and non-governmental organizations, in particular those that work with and for older persons, on the substantive and practical content of the framework.

Decision 46/101
Documents considered by the Commission for Social Development at its forty-sixth session

The Commission for Social Development takes note of the following documents that were before it at its forty-sixth session:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on Disability of the Commission for Social Development;[29]

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on promoting full employment and decent work for all;[30]

(c) Note by the Secretariat on the future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development;[31]

(d) Note by the Secretariat on mainstreaming disability in the development agenda;[32]

(e) Note by the Secretariat entitled "Full employment and decent work: intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women";[33]

(f) Note by the Secretary-General on the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2010-2011: subprogramme 3, Social policy and development.[34]

[29] E/CN.5/2008/3.
[30] E/CN.5/2008/4.
[31] E/CN.5/2008/5.
[32] E/CN.5/2008/6.
[33] E/CN.5/2008/8.
[34] E/CN.5/2008/9.

Chapter II

Organizational matters: further review of the methods of work of the Commission

Future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development

1. The Commission considered the review of its methods of work under agenda item 2 at its 11th and 14th meetings, on 12 and 22 February 2008. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on the future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development (E/CN.5/2008/5) and a note by the Secretary-General on the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2010-2011: subprogramme 3, Social policy and development (E/CN.5/2008/9).

2. At the 11th meeting, on 12 February, the Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development made an introductory statement.

3. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Cuba and South Africa, as well as by the observers for Slovenia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and Switzerland.

Action taken by the Commission

4. At the resumed 14th meeting, on 22 February, the Vice-Chairperson, Ignacio Llanos (Chile), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development" (E/CN.5/2008/L.6) submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

5. At the same meeting, the Commission was informed that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

6. Also at the same meeting, a statement was made by the observer for Antigua and Barbuda (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

7. Following the adoption of the draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution III), the observer for the Philippines made a statement.

Chapter III

Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

1. The Commission considered item 3 of its agenda at its 2nd to 12th and 14th meetings, from 6 to 14 and 22 February 2008. It had before it the following documents: E/CN.5/2008/2, E/CN.5/2008/3, E/CN.5/2008/4, E/CN.5/2008/6, E/CN.5/2008/7 and Corr.1, E/CN.5/2008/8 and E/CN.5/2008/NGO/1-8, 10, 11 and 13-25.

2. At the 2nd meeting, on 6 February, the Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, made an introductory statement on item 3 as a whole.

3. At the same meeting, following a statement by the representative of the non-governmental organizations community on the outcome of the Civil Society Forum, the keynote speaker, Carlos Tomada, Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Protection (Argentina) addressed the Commission and engaged in an interactive dialogue, in which the representative of India, as well as the observers for Argentina and Brazil, and the representatives of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and the International Labour Organization (ILO), took part.

Action taken by the Commission under agenda item 3 as a whole
Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

4. At its 12th meeting, on 14 February, the observer for Antigua and Barbuda (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) introduced a draft resolution entitled "Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development" (E/CN.5/2008/L.3).

5. At the resumed 14th meeting, on 22 February, the Commission was informed that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

6. At the same meeting, the observer for Antigua and Barbuda (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), introduced oral revisions to the draft resolution circulated in an informal paper.

7. Also at the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the United States of America.

8. Subsequently, Andorra, Austria,[1] Belgium,[1] Bulgaria,[1] Cyprus,[1] the Czech Republic, Estonia,[1] Finland, France, Germany, Greece,[1] Ireland,[1] Italy, Moldova, Monaco, the Netherlands, Poland,[1] Portugal,[1] Slovakia, Slovenia,[1] Spain, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland[1] joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

9. At the resumed 14th meeting, the Commission adopted draft resolution E/CN.5/2008/L.3 as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I).

[1] In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

Documents considered under the item

10. At the resumed 14th meeting, on the proposal of the Vice-Chairperson, the Commission decided to take note of documents E/CN.5/2008/5 and E/CN.5/2008/9 (see chap. I, sect. C, draft decision 46/101).

A. Priority theme: promoting full employment and decent work for all

11. The Commission considered agenda item 3 (a) at its 4th to 6th, 11th and resumed 14th meetings, on 7, 8, 13 and 22 February 2008.

12. At its 4th meeting, on 7 February, statements were made by the representatives of Finland, the United Arab Emirates, Japan, the Russian Federation, Italy, Turkey, Slovakia and Chile, as well as by the observers for Antigua and Barbuda (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Slovenia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Zambia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Southern African Development Community), the Dominican Republic (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Rio Group), Brazil, El Salvador, Belarus, Pakistan, Algeria and the Syrian Arab Republic.

13. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the International Organization for Migration and the ILO.

14. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Society of Catholic Medical Missionaries,[2] the International Movement ATD Fourth World[2] and Droit à l'énergie SOS futur.[2]

15. At its 5th meeting, on 7 February, statements were made by the representatives of Namibia, Moldova, Bangladesh, the United States, Mexico, China, India, Cuba, the United Republic of Tanzania, Indonesia, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea and Jamaica, as well as by the observers for Switzerland, Israel, Senegal, Nicaragua, the Philippines, the Sudan, Zambia, Yemen and by the observer for the Holy See.

16. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the International Federation of Associations of the Elderly.[2]

17. At the 6th meeting, on 8 February, statements were made by the representatives of Egypt, Peru and Angola and by the observers for Norway, Romania, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Colombia.

18. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta,[2] the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the United Nations Volunteers and the United Nations Population Fund.

Panel discussion and presentation under the priority theme

19. At its 3rd meeting, on 6 February, the Commission held a panel discussion on the theme "Promoting full employment and decent work for all", moderated by the Executive Director of the Social Protection Sector of the ILO, who also made a statement. Presentations were made by Vladimír Špidla, European Union

[2] Non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities; Sudha Pillai, Secretary of the Ministry of Labour and Employment (India); Daniel Funes de Rioja, Employer Vice-Chairperson of the ILO Governing Body and Chairperson of the Employers' Group; Sanja Crnković-Pozaić, Director of CEPOR: SMEs and Entrepreneurship Policy Centre (Croatia); and Gladys Branche of the Labour Congress (Sierra Leone), who also engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Italy, Moldova, Tunisia, Jamaica, the Republic of Korea and India, as well as with the observers for Slovenia, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, Senegal and the representative of ESCWA. The Chairperson's summary of the panel discussion may be consulted at http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/csd/csocd2008/Documents/summary1.pdf.

20. At the same meeting, comments were made by the representatives of the Society of Catholic Medical Missionaries,[2] European Youth Forum,[2] International Trade Union Confederation[2] and Leonard Cheshire International.[2]

Panel discussion on the theme "Full employment and decent work: intensification to eliminate all forms of violence against women"

21. At the 11th meeting, on 12 February, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 61/143, a presentation was made by Manuela Tomei, Director of the Working Conditions Branch, ILO, on the theme "Full employment and decent work: intensification to eliminate all forms of violence against women". In the resolution, the General Assembly invited the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council to discuss, within their respective mandates, the question of violence against women and to set priorities for addressing the issue in their future efforts and work programmes and to transmit the outcome of those discussions to the Secretary-General for his annual report to the Assembly.

22. At the same meeting, the Commission engaged in an interactive dialogue with Ms. Tomei, in which the representatives of Jamaica, the Netherlands and Indonesia, as well as the observer for Slovenia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), took part.

23. Also at the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the Association of United Families International.[2]

24. The summary of the discussion, which has been transmitted to the Secretary-General for his annual report to the Assembly, may be consulted at http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/csd/csocd2008/Documents/summary4.pdf.

Action taken by the Commission on agenda item 3 (a)
Promoting full employment and decent work for all

25. At its resumed 14th meeting, on 22 February, the Chairperson, Alexei Tulbure (Moldova), introduced draft resolution E/CN.5/2008/L.8 and orally revised the text by replacing the word "people" with "peoples" at the end of paragraph 3.

26. At the same meeting, the observer for Antigua and Barbuda (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) made a statement and orally revised operative paragraph 34 by deleting the words "in and" after the words "and investment flows".

27. Also at the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the United States.

28. At the resumed 14th meeting, the Commission was informed that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

29. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution II).

30. After the adoption, statements were made by the representative of Japan and the observer for Antigua and Barbuda (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

Documents considered under the sub-item

31. At its resumed 14th meeting, on 22 February, on the proposal of the Chairperson, the Commission decided to take note of the report of the Secretary-General on promoting full employment and decent work for all[3] and the Note by the Secretariat on the theme "Full employment and decent work: intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women"[4] (see chap. I, sect. C, decision 46/101).

B. Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups "Further promotion of equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities and protection of their human rights"

32. At its 6th meeting, on 8 February 2008, the Commission heard an introductory statement by Sheikha Hess Al-Thani, Special Rapporteur on Disability of the Commission for Social Development, who engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, Benin, the Republic of Korea, Germany and Cuba, as well as the observer for Yemen.

33. At the same meeting, the Commission began its general discussion of the sub-item and heard statements by the observers for Argentina (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of MERCOSUR) and Slovenia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union).

34. At its 7th meeting, on 8 February, the Commission held a panel discussion on the theme "Review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002: regional perspective", moderated by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Sha Zukang, who also made a statement. Presentations were made by Abdoulie Janneh, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa; Marek Belka, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe; José Luis Machinea, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean; Noeleen Heyzer, Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; and François M. Farah,

[3] E/CN.5/2008/4.
[4] E/CN.5/2008/8.

Chief of Social Development Division, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. The panellists then engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Japan, the Republic of Korea, China, Haiti and Jamaica, as well as the observers for Slovenia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and Brazil. The Chairperson's summary of the panel discussion on the theme "Regional review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002: regional perspective", may be consulted at http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/csd/csocd2008/Documents/summary2.pdf.

35. At its 8th meeting, on 11 February, the Commission continued the general discussion of item 3 (b) and heard statements by the representatives of Japan, the Russian Federation, Italy, Chile, China, Mexico, Cuba, Egypt and Bangladesh, as well as by the observers for Brazil, Canada, Malta, Zambia and Sweden.

36. At the same meeting, statements were also made by the representatives of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, ILO, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and United Nations Volunteers.

37. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of PAX Romana,[2] American Association of Retired People,[2] International Federation on Ageing[2] and European Youth Forum[2] (on behalf of the World Organization of the Scout Movement[2]).

38. At its 9th meeting, on 11 February, the Commission heard statements by the representatives of Mali, Cameroon, Benin, Nepal, Myanmar, Indonesia, Tunisia, South Africa, the United States, Spain, Paraguay, Monaco and Haiti, as well as by the observers for Malawi, Morocco and Qatar.

39. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Bahá'i International,[2] Elizabeth Seton Federation,[2] Fondation Chantal Biya,[2] HelpAge International,[2] International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse,[2] Global Youth Action Network[2] and Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Council of North and South America.[2]

Action taken by the Commission on agenda item 3 (b)

40. At its resumed 14th meeting, on 22 February, the Vice-Chairperson, Sonja Kreibich (Germany), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Further promotion of equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities and protection of their human rights" (E/CN.5/2008/L.7), submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

41. At the same meeting, the Commission was informed that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

42. Also at the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of Jamaica.

43. At the resumed 14th meeting, the Commission adopted draft resolution E/CN.5/2008/L.7 (see chap. I, draft resolution IV).

Modalities for the first review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002

44. At its resumed 14th meeting, on 22 February, the Vice-Chairperson, Zhang Dan (China) introduced a draft resolution entitled "First review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002" (E/CN.5/2008/L.5), submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

45. At the same meeting, the Commission was informed that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

46. Also at the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 46/1).

Document considered under sub-item 3 (b)

47. At its resumed 14th meeting, on 22 February, on the proposal of the Chairperson, the Commission decided to take note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on Disability of the Commission for Social Development on monitoring of the implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities (E/CN.5/2008/3) (see chap. I, sect. C, decision 46/101).

C. Emerging issues: mainstreaming disability in the development agenda

48. At the 10th meeting, on 12 February, the Commission held a panel discussion on the theme "Mainstreaming disability in the development agenda" moderated by Claude Heller, Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations, who also made a statement. Presentations were made by Rosangela Berman Bieler, Executive Director of the Inter-American Institute on Disability and Inclusive Development; Venus M. Ilagan, immediate past Chairperson and Representative for International relations of the Disabled Peoples International World Council; Charlotte McClain Nhlapo, World Bank; Barbara Murray, International Labour Organization; and Ronald Wiman, Senior Social Development Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland, who engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Egypt, Haiti and Indonesia, as well as with the observers for Brazil, the Philippines and Slovenia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union).

49. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of Rehabilitation International[2] (on behalf of the International Disability Alliance).[2] The Chairperson's summary of the panel discussion may be consulted at http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/csd/csocd2008/Documents/summary3.pdf.

50. Also at the same meeting, the Commission began its general discussion of the sub-item and heard statements by the representatives of Germany, Moldova, Cuba, the Republic of Korea and Mexico, as well as by the observers for Slovenia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Argentina (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of MERCOSUR) and Colombia.

51. At the 10th meeting, a statement was made by the representative of ILO.

Action taken by the Commission on agenda item 3 (c)

52. At its 12th meeting, on 14 February, the observer for Antigua and Barbuda (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) introduced a draft resolution entitled "Mainstreaming disability in the development agenda" (E/CN.5/2008/L.4).

53. At the resumed 14th meeting, on 22 February, the Commission was informed that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

54. At the same meeting, the observer for Antigua and Barbuda (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) read out the revisions to the draft resolution, which were circulated in an informal paper, and informed the Commission that Finland, Spain and Sweden[1] had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution. The representative of Mexico made a correction to the newly introduced revisions.

55. Subsequently, Andorra, Armenia,[1] Austria,[1] Croatia,[1] Cyprus,[1] the Czech Republic, Estonia,[1] France, Greece,[1] Ireland,[1] Italy, Japan, Moldova, Monaco, the Netherlands, Poland,[1] Portugal,[1] the Republic of Korea, Romania,[1] Slovakia, Slovenia,[1] Turkey and the United Kingdom[1] joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

56. At the resumed 14th meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution as orally revised and corrected (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution V).

Document considered under the sub-item

57. At the resumed 14th meeting, on the proposal of the Chairperson, the Commission decided to take note of documents E/CN.5/2008/5 and E/CN.5/2008/9 (see chap. I, sect. C, draft decision 46/101).

Chapter IV

Provisional agenda for the forty-seventh session of the Commission

1. The Commission considered item 5 of its agenda at its resumed 14th meeting, on 22 February 2008. It had before it the provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-seventh session of the Commission as contained in document E/CN.5/2008/L.2.

2. At the same meeting, the Commission approved the provisional agenda and documentation for its forty-seventh session (see chap. I, sect. B, draft decision).

Chapter V

Adoption of the report of the Commission on its forty-sixth session

1. At its resumed 14th meeting, on 22 February, Zhang Dan (China), Vice-Chairperson and Rapporteur, introduced the draft report of the Commission on its forty-sixth session (E/CN.5/2008/L.1).

2. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft report and entrusted the Rapporteur with its completion.

Chapter VI
Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Commission for Social Development held its forty-sixth session at United Nations Headquarters on 16 February 2007 and from 6 to 15 February and on 22 February 2008. The Commission held 15 meetings (1st to 14th and resumed 14th).

2. At its 2nd meeting, on 6 February 2008, the Chairman of the Commission made a statement. The Deputy Secretary-General and the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs addressed the Commission.

B. Attendance

3. The session was attended by representatives of 42 States members of the Commission. Observers for States Members of the United Nations and for non-member States, representatives of organizations of the United Nations system, and representatives of intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations also attended. The list of participants is contained in document E/CN.5/2008/INF/1.

C. Election of officers

4. In its decision 2002/210, the Economic and Social Council decided that immediately following the closure of a regular session, the Commission would hold the first meeting of its subsequent regular session for the sole purpose of electing the new Chairperson and other members of the Bureau. At the 1st meeting of its forty-sixth session, held on 16 February 2007, and at its 2nd meeting, on 6 February 2008, in pursuance of that decision, the Commission elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chairperson:

Alexei **Tulbure** (Moldova)

Vice-Chairpersons:

Zhang Dan (China)
Ignacio **Llanos** (Chile)
Sonja Anna **Kreibich** (Germany)
Bertin **Babadoudou** (Benin)

5. At its 2nd meeting, on 7 February, the Commission designated Zhang Dan, Vice-Chairperson and Rapporteur for the session.

D. Agenda and organization of work

6. At the 2nd meeting, the Commission adopted the provisional agenda contained in document E/CN.5/2008/1/Rev.1. The agenda read as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly:
   (a) Priority theme: promoting full employment and decent work for all;
   (b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups:
      (i) World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons;
      (ii) World Programme of Action for Youth for the Year 2000 and Beyond;
      (iii) Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002;
      (iv) Family issues, policies and programmes;
   (c) Emerging issues: "Mainstreaming disability in the development agenda".
4. Provisional agenda for the forty-seventh session of the Commission.
5. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its forty-sixth session.

7. At the same meeting, following an oral correction made by the Secretary, the Commission approved its organization of work as contained in annex I to document E/CN.5/2008/1/Rev.1.

E. Documentation

8. The list of documents before the Commission at its forty-sixth session is contained in the annex to the present report.

Annex

List of documents before the Commission at its forty-sixth session

Symbol	*Agenda item*	*Title*
E/CN.5/2008/1/Rev.1	2	Provisional annotated agenda and proposed organization of work
E/CN.5/2008/2	3 (b)	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the regional commissions on the regional implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002
E/CN.5/2008/3	3 (b)	Note by the Secretary-General on monitoring of the implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities
E/CN.5/2008/4	3 (a)	Report of the Secretary-General on promoting full employment and decent work for all
E/CN.5/2008/5	2	Note by the Secretariat on the future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development
E/CN.5/2008/6	3 (c)	Note by the Secretariat on mainstreaming disability in the development agenda
E/CN.5/2008/7 and Corr.1	3 (b)	Report of the Secretary-General entitled "First review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002: preliminary assessment"
E/CN.5/2008/8	3	Note by the Secretariat on the intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women
E/CN.5/2008/9	2	Note by the Secretary-General entitled "Proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2010-2011: subprogramme 3, Social policy and development"
E/CN.5/2008/L.1	5	Draft report of the Commission on the organization of its forty-sixth session
E/CN.5/2008/L.2	4	Provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-seventh session of the Commission for Social Development

Symbol	*Agenda item*	*Title*
E/CN.5/2008/L.3	3	Draft resolution entitled "Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development"
E/CN.5/2008/L.4	3	Draft resolution entitled "Mainstreaming disability in the development agenda"
E/CN.5/2008/L.5	3 (b) (iii)	Draft resolution entitled "First review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002"
E/CN.5/2008/L.6	2	Draft resolution entitled "Future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development"
E/CN.5/2008/L.7	3 (b)	Draft resolution entitled "Further promotion of equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities and protection of their human rights"
E/CN.5/2008/L.8	3 (a)	Draft resolution entitled "Promoting full employment and decent work for all"
E/CN.5/2008/NGO.1-8, 10, 11, 13-18 and 20-24	3 (a)	Statements submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council
E/CN.5/2008/NGO.19 and 25	3 (b)	Statements submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

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